

Dear Families,

On Tuesday our Pebbles and Ladybirds children visited Abundance Seedlings HQ in Stokenchurch to buy some compost for their topic this term. While we were there, Jonny (a former Ibstone pupil himself), showed the children how he mixes the compost for his plants and invited them all to plant their own sunflower to take home. He gave them a tour of the greenhouse and polytunnel and spoke to the children about what plants need to survive. Thank you so much Jonny! We are looking forward to watching our plants grow over the next few weeks!



Love – Courage – Respect – Community – Perseverance

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 Philippians 4:13*



Our Year 2 children took part in Drowning Prevention Week during their swimming session this week. They tried swimming in their pyjamas against a current provided by their friends, jumping in and going into a star float. Some of the children also practised treading water in the deep end of the pool! Well done everyone!



Next week Cath from Court Garden Leisure Centre will be coming to speak to the whole school about how they can stay safe near the water.

This week in Family Time, the whole school have continued finding out about the miracles Jesus performed, the focus this week was the story of Feeding the Five Thousand. Whilst we do not have 5000 pupils, we finished Family Time by sitting on the hill to share icepops together today!



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Weekly Round Up

Pebbles

Pebbles have been enjoying making dotty finger painted flowers this week, they have spent time looking at and talking about the colours and patterns. They have been using buckets and piping to problem solve how to move water from one container to another.

They enjoyed playing Volcanoes and Craters and 'head, shoulders, knees and cones'

Ladybirds

We have had another busy week in Ladybirds. This week we designed our own super villain vegetable and thought about what mischief they may get up to in the supermarket. We planned our own story and changed it from the evil pea to our new character. We then looked at writing the first part of our story, we will continue with the story next week. After our trip to Abundance Seedlings we have been planting some of our own vegetable seeds at school.

There was a special delivery at the end of week and we have been amazed how quickly our caterpillars are growing.

We looked at Vincent Van Gogh's painting of sunflowers really closely and painted our own. We have had lots of water play to help us keep cool in the heat!

In mathematics we have played games to help us understand odds and evens and doubles. We have been working on making repeating patterns and worked with a friend to guess their pattern rule.



Woodland Class

In English, Woodland Class have been planning their own letters of complaint from one of the crayons in 'The Day the Crayons Quit'. They have also started writing the opening of their letters and will continue writing these next week.

In mathematics, Year 1 have started learning about place value within 100. This week they have been counting forwards and backwards to 100 and identifying tens and ones in bigger numbers. Year 2 have finished their unit on fractions. This week they have been identifying and finding $\frac{3}{4}$ of a shape or quantity.

In art this week, the children have started creating their own Van Gogh inspired pictures using oil pastel. The children have looked closely at the painting 'The Starry Night' and have used this to create their own piece using St Nicholas' Church as their stimulus.

In science, Woodland Class have been learning about parts of flowers and trees. The children made flowers using paper and labelled the key parts including petals, stem, leaves and roots. As a challenge some children were also able to label the parts of a tree and explained the importance of roots.

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Kestrel Class

In English this week, the class have continued mapping the rest of our focus text and have made up actions to go with it. There has been some very enthusiastic retelling of the text with some super expression! We have also started looking at the persuasion toolkit; looking at the features and finding them within our focus text.



In mathematics, we have been doing our end of term assessments to see how much the children have retained through the units of fractions, decimals, money, time and shape. We have also continued looking at shape; Nemos have been learning about angles, whilst Frogs have been learning about quadrilaterals and polygons.

We were lucky on Thursday to spend the afternoon watching Cars. One of our Kestrels chose to spend their Ibstone Investments on a movie afternoon for the whole class! This is the second time that one of the Kestrels have gained enough points to share this treat with their whole class and everybody was very grateful. Kestrels have been very excited about the Ibstone Investments and their frequent reading at home has been earning them points to enjoy treats such as hot chocolate with a member of staff, extra playtime and a walk with Zog.

Osprey Class

This week in English, Osprey Class have been busy learning their new text map: who is to blame for the tragedy in the Highwayman? We have also been applying our formal sentence starters to discuss whether Mrs Long should rent out the Astro to make money for the school. Finally, we have started reading Matthews and Ross's version of Macbeth to further explore blame in tragedies.

In mathematics this week we have been learning how to add and subtract decimals and the whole class have excelled! Y6 have been bringing together all they have learnt this year and applying their knowledge to complete a bakery themed project.

In D&T we have started making our waistcoats – this week has involved selecting fabric, carefully cutting out our patterns and clipping the pieces together ready for sewing.

One of the children also got to claim his Ibstone Investment reward – we had hot chocolate on the hottest day of the year!

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Barn Owls

In English, we've continued our work on the persuasive text, 'Perfect Parrot for Sale.' Barn Owls did a fantastic job mapping out the story and practising their retelling skills, paying close attention to all the persuasive techniques used within the text.

In maths this week, it's been all about shapes! We've explored 2D and 3D shapes, learning about the important components of 3D figures such as **edges, vertices, and faces**. The children particularly enjoyed the challenge of using nets to construct their very own 3D shapes!

In other news

Open Classrooms

We are delighted to invite you into school again to see your child's classroom. The classrooms will be open from the end of the school day (3.15pm for Ladybirds and Woodland Class/ 3.25pm for Kestrel and Osprey Class) until 5.15 pm on Monday 30th June. It is an opportunity for your child to show you their classroom and their books will be available for you to look at. We hope you will be able to join us. The teachers will be in the classrooms to welcome you but please be aware, this is not parents' evening.

Meet the Teacher

Tuesday 1st July is transition day, your child will be meeting their new teacher and classmates during the morning. We would like to invite parents in to see their child's new classroom and meet the teacher on Tuesday 1st after school. The staff will be in the classrooms for you to meet until 5.15pm. This is not a formal meeting but more of an opportunity for you to see your child's new classroom and to say hi to the class teacher. If your child is staying in the same class, you are more than welcome to pop in if you would like to.

Term Dates

Thank you to the eagle eyed parent who spotted my mistake on the term dates last week. We are back to school on Monday 13th April 2026, not 23rd !

Gazebos

We have purchased 2 heavy duty gazebos that we will be able to use to create more shade on the playground. The gazebos will also be really useful for school events such as Sports Day, PTA events, Ibvest and much more. Thank you to the parent who has made a donation to pay for them! We really appreciate it!

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Swimming

Group 1 swimmers will need their swimming kit with them on Wednesday 25th June. An email has been sent to all KS2 parents.

Ibfest Tickets

Tickets are now able to be ordered via iPal. The tickets are free but are limited to two tickets per family. Donations will be taken on the door, with all funds used to make a difference to your children. Tickets must be ordered by 4th July. If you would like more than 2 tickets, please order 2 and send an email to the office requesting more. If we have spare capacity, we will allocate you more tickets.

Head to iPal, Book, School Trips, Ibfest25. Scroll over to the date and select 4th July and then confirm 1 or 2 tickets.

Sports Day Arrangements

KS2 Sports Day will be held on the Common on Thursday 3rd July at 9am. Please bring your children straight to the Common and we will register them there. Sports Day should be finished by 10.30am. If you are unable to attend, please could you email the office to confirm you are happy for your child to be taken back to school in the minibus.

EYFS & KS1 Sports Day will be held on the Common on Friday 11th July at 9am. Please bring your children straight to the Common and we will register them there. Sports Day should be finished by 10.30am. If you are unable to attend, please could you email the office to confirm you are happy for your child to be taken back to school in the minibus.

Pebbles Nursery Sports Day will be at school on the MUGA at 11.30am on Friday 11th July, if your child does not attend Pebbles on a Friday, they are welcome to join us for Sports Day. Please let us know if you are planning to bring your child.

End of Term

As we ramp up to the end of term, there is lots going on, new dates or information will be **added in bold**:

Date	Time	What	Who	Clothing	Exceptions / Information
Monday 30 th June	1.15pm	KS2 Sports Practice (PM)	All KS2	PE kit, hats and water	None
Monday 30th June	3.15pm / 3.25pm	Open Classrooms	Everyone	n/a	Please see main body of the newsletter
Tuesday 1 st July	9am	Transition Morning	Everyone	School uniform	NO FOREST SCHOOL
Tuesday 1st July	3.15pm / 3.25pm	Meet the Teacher	Y1-Y6	n/a	Please see main body of the newsletter
Wednesday 2 nd July	12.30pm	Swimming	Group 2 Swimmers	PE Kit	Group 2 swimmers should bring their swimming kit
Thursday 3 rd July	9am – 10.30am	KS2 Sports Day @ Ibstone Common	All KS2 children and families	PE Kit	All children should be taken to the common for 9am

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Friday 4 th July	9.30am	Year 6 Adventure Weekend	Year 6	As per kit list	None
Monday 7 th July	1.15pm	EYFS/ KS1 Sports Practice (PM)	All EYFS KS1	PE kit, hats and water	None
Tuesday 8 th July	1pm	Opera First Performance	Osprey Class	School Uniform	No Forest School for Osprey due to trip to Garsington
Wednesday 9 th July	9.30am	EYFS Vision Check	Ladybirds	School Uniform	None
Wednesday 9 th July	12.30pm	Swimming	Group 3 Swimmers	PE Kit	Group 3 swimmers should bring their swimming kit
Friday 11 th July	9am – 10.30am	EYFS & KS1 Sports Day @ Ibstone Common	All EYFS/ KS1 children and families	PE Kit	All children should be taken to the common for 9am
Friday 11 th July	11.30am	Pebbles Sports Day @ School	All Pebbles children and families	Comfy clothes & trainers	Please come to the back gate at 11.30am
Date	Time	What	Who	Clothing	Exceptions / Information
Monday 14 th July	All day	Ibifest Week Circus	All pupils	School uniform	More information will be sent
Monday 14 th July	9.30am	Trip to Giffords Circus	All pupils	School uniform (Pebbles in own clothes)	Whole school trip
Wednesday 16 th July	8am	Year 6 Swan Upping		School uniform	More information to follow
Friday 18 th July	9am-12pm	Pebbles Last Day	Pebbles	Own clothes	
Friday 18 th July	2pm	Ibifest Performance	Everyone!		Tickets available to book on iPal now. Max 2 people per family.
Date	Time	What	Who	Clothing	Exceptions / Information
Monday 21 st July	9.15am	Y6 Leavers Service	Year 6 Pupils and their families	School uniform	Please bring tissues
Tuesday 22 nd	12.45pm – 1.30pm	End of Year Celebration in the Garden	Everyone!	School uniform	Please bring tissues

Louise Long
Headteacher

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Headteacher Awards



Lunch Awards



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Maths Whizz



Family Time Awards



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Diary Dates
New or amended dates will be shown in BOLD

Date	Occasion	Who?
June 2025		
23 rd	Water safety information session	EYFS – Y6 pupils
25 th – 30 th	No Ms Robertson in the office – please email the office with any urgent messages	Everyone
30 th	Open Classrooms – after school	Everyone
July 2025		
1 st	Transition Day	Everyone
1 st	Meet the Teachers – after school	Everyone
3 rd	KS2 Sports Morning 9-11am – more information to follow	KS2 families
4 th – 6 th	Year 6 Adventure Weekend	Year 6 only
8 th	Garsington Opera First Performance – more information to follow	Year 5/6 only
11 th	EYFS & KS1 Sports Morning 9-11am – more information to follow	Ladybirds & Woodland Class families
11 th	Pebbles' Sports Morning 11.30-12pm – more information to follow	Pebbles families
14 th	Ibfest Week – more information to follow	Everyone
14 th	Whole School Trip to Giffords Circus	Whole School
18 th	Pebbles Last Day	Pebbles children
18 th	Ibfest Performance – 2pm on the MUGA in the Garden	All families
21 st	Leavers' Service 9.15am, St Nicholas Church	Year 6 Families
22 nd	Garden Celebration – 12.45pm	Everyone
23 rd	INSET Day	Staff Only

2025 – 2026 Term Dates

Start of Term	End of Term
Thursday 4 th September 2025	Wednesday 22 nd October 2025
Monday 3 rd November 2025	Friday 19 th December 2025 (1.30pm)
Monday 5 th January 2026	Thursday 12 th February 2026
Monday 23 rd February 2026	Friday 27 th March 2026 (1.30pm)
Monday 13 th April 2026	Friday 22 nd May 2026
Tuesday 2 nd June 2026	Wednesday 22 nd July 2026 (1.30pm)

INSET DAYS

Wednesday 3rd September 2025
Thursday 23rd October 2025
Friday 24th October 2025
Friday 13th February 2026
Monday 1st June 2026

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